



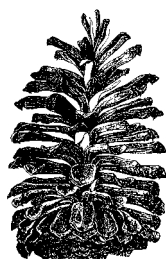
Safe Harbor News

Safe Harbor Update from Susan

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service office relocates

In late July, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service office moved from 225 N. Bennett Street to 140-A SW Broad Street. We are now co-located with the U.S. Army Environmental Center, The Nature Conservancy, and the Sandhills Area Land Trust and are collectively called the Conservation Center of the Sandhills. Please stop by and visit with us when you are in the area.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce Kevin Lapp. Kevin recently started an internship with the U.S. Army Environmental Center office which is co-located with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Kevin previously worked for a consulting firm in Raleigh and has experience doing survey work for endangered species in North Carolina. He will be working with me on Safe Harbor properties including monitoring red-cockaded woodpeckers in the Sandhills.



Just a reminder that it's time again for Safe Harbor annual visits. I will be calling you in the next few months to discuss your property and any voluntary activities you have completed during the last calendar year. I am particularly interested in hearing about any mid-story hardwood removal, prescribed burning, and any herbicide work you have completed.

Safe Harbor Agreements

59 Landowners

30,511 acres

North Carolina Natural Heritage Inventory Project

Many Safe Harbor landowners were contacted recently about participating in a survey to document unique natural communities in the Sandhills. This survey is being conducted by the North Carolina Natural Heritage Program (NHP) in conjunction with the North Carolina Sandhills Conservation Partnership (NCSCP). An important step in the conservation planning process is to document the potential existence of various natural communities on lands currently enrolled under conservation agreements such as Safe Harbor. The NHP is one of the main state agencies that inventories lands for conservation potential, specifically to determine whether they have rare natural communities, rare species, or high quality examples of more common natural communities. This fall a NHP biologist, Harry LeGrand, is available to conduct inventories on properties identified by the NCSCP as having a high conservation potential. These inventories will primarily focus on rare plant species and communities.



U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
NORTH CAROLINA SANDHILLS FIELD STATION



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The Nature Conservancy Sandhills Office

The Nature Conservancy is an international, non-profit conservation organization that has worked cooperatively for over fifty years with private landowners and agency partners to achieve conservation of important ecosystems across the United States. The Conservancy has over one million individual and family members and enjoys strong support from leading corporations and foundations.

In North Carolina, the Conservancy began work in 1977 and since has protected a total of 486,182 acres, much of which was acquired on behalf of state and federal conservation agencies and is now in public ownership. The North Carolina chapter and its 27,000 members are currently focusing on seven large landscape projects – the Sandhills, Roanoke River, Upper Tar River, New River Headwaters, Hickory Nut Gorge, Green Swamp/Boiling Spring Wetlands and Lower Cape Fear River.

The Chapter has worked in the Sandhills for more than a decade, acquiring lands for inclusion into Weymouth Woods State Nature Preserve and the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission Sandhills Game Lands, as well as for preserves that it owns and manages. For more information contact:

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Internet Links

The Nature Conservancy: <http://www.nature.org>

Sandhills Area Land Trust: <http://www.ctnc.org/ctnc/trusts/sandhills.html>

U.S. Army Environmental Center:
<http://aec.army.mil/>

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service: <http://ncsfs.fws.gov>

